

Resilience Bonus Points Minimum Standard Requirements

Introduction:

It is the Office of Community and Rural Affairs' (OCRA) policy to promote and enhance the resilience of rural communities. Below is the required submission process and minimum standard requirements for a resilience bonus points submission. Applicants who properly submit by the announced deadline are eligible to receive up to 25 resilience bonus points.

Relevant Definitions

- **Chief Elected Official (CEO):** The individual elected and legally empowered to apply for and execute CDBG grants on behalf of the community.
- **Community Resilience Index (CRI):** An annual score calculated by Stats Indiana designed to be more forward looking by focusing on a community's capacity to withstand, adapt to, and recover from economic transitions, population shifts, or disasters <https://www.stats.indiana.edu/topic/cdbg.asp>.
- **Community Resilience Vision Plan (CRVP):** A narrative document outlining how the proposed project and/or other local projects will improve CRI metrics over the next five years. This is worth up to five (5) points.
- **Points Awarded (PA):** Points are assigned to Indiana communities according to their results on the Community Resilience Score Index, using an established formula.
- **Resilience Bonus Points (RBP):** These are the total points received from the submitted Community Resilience Vision Plan and the Points awarded.

A. Process

- 1) The CEO, with guidance from an OCRA Grant Administrator must develop the CRVP in accordance with Minimum Standard Requirements, as outline in **Part B** of this document.
- 2) Community Resilience Vision Plan and documentation (as applicable) will be submitted under Section 11- Other Uploads on the Grants Management System (GMS) by the announced deadline for each round/cycle.
- 3) OCRA determines total points awarded based on:
 - a. Timeliness, completeness, and quality of the Community Resilience Vision Plan and documentation.
 - b. Community Resilience Index (CRI) Points Awarded formula.
- 4) Resilience Bonus Points awarded are added to the CDBG application's total score during the application review process.
 - a. Resilience bonus points awarded are available for view on each applicant's scoresheet. See round/cycle instructions for more information on scoresheet access.

B. Minimum Standard Requirements

If any required element below is not met, a CRVP will NOT be evaluated and zero resilience bonus points will be awarded.

The Community Resilience Vision Plan and documentation **MUST**:

- Be submitted by the announced deadline
- be tailored to the individual community applying
- not exceed 3 pages in length (CRVP)
- be unique to each cycle/round in which a community is applying
- include accurate dates, signatures, and current information
- Be written and documented in accordance with the outline below.
- Include meeting minutes as evidence resilience was discussed in a public meeting.

****EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2027**

1) Outline for Community Resilience Vision Plan (CRVP):

A. Official Community Letterhead

- a) Date

B. Greetings

- a) Dear [CDBG Program Manager]

C. Introduction

- a) Provide up to three sentences to introduce the specific project seeking CDBG funding.
Include:
 - i) Round/Cycle of CDBG Application Submission
 - ii) Project or Plan Type

D. Vision Statement

- a) Provide three (3) sentences each
 - i) describing the visions for the community over the next five years.
 - ii) describing how current or future projects will enhance the community's capacity to adapt, recover, and thrive in the face of future challenges.

E. Long Term Project Impact-

- a) Describe community projects that have or will strategically contribute to the overall goal of improving the community's resilience in the next five (5) years. Specifically, the seven resilience metrics used by Stats Indiana. **Note:** Projects may or may not be funded by OCRA.
- b) For **ONE** metric below, outline in three to five sentences how current or future community projects will contribute to the overall goal of improving the community's resilience.

- i) **Structure of local economy:** How the local economic base will be broadened and new sectors attracted.
 - ii) **Entrepreneurial Activity:** How startup activity, small-business growth, access to capital, etc. will be fostered.
 - iii) **Human capital (Education & workforce participation):** How educational attainment will be improved and labor-force engagement increased.
 - iv) **Social Capital:** How community networks will be strengthened and how civic engagement will be enhanced.
 - v) **Broadband Connectivity:** Efforts made to expand reliable internet service for homes, businesses, and institutions.
 - vi) **Wealth equity:** Efforts made to increase financial security of residents.
 - vii) **Homeownership:** Strategies to increase stable housing and deepen residents' ties to the community.
- F. **Funding Utilization Strategy**
- a) Describe strategy for project implementation in order to realize the community's five-year resilience objectives.
 - b) Identify anticipated and viable funding streams to support implementation of the identified metric above.
- G. **Closing**
- a) Reaffirm commitment to improving community resilience through efforts within and beyond the vision plan.
- H. **Signature**
- a) CEO's handwritten signature
 - b) Typed name and title

2) Resilience Planning discussed in Public Meeting ****EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2027**

A. Discuss resilience in a public meeting

- a. Define the Community Resilience Index (CRI), including metrics used to determine a community's CRI score
- b. Discuss how the CRI and resilience as a whole impacts your community.

B. Include meeting minutes in resilience bonus points upload.

B. Points Awarded (PA) Formula

$$(\text{Slope} * \text{Community Resilience Score} - \text{Intercept})$$

A point-based system formula is used to translate STATS Indiana Community Resilience Index scores into a straightforward format for evaluation. These scores are updated at least annually. A chart of points awarded based on a community's current Community Resilience Index score may be found on the [CDBG Resources](#) webpage.